

Clamming

Duxbury Clipper, Thursday, November 30, 1972

GIANT CLAM

An old clipping from the defunct Boston Post (whose New England circulation was once greater than the total circulation of The New York Times -- in the vicinity of 600,000) includes a photo under the caption "Giant Clam Dug Up From Duxbury Beach."

The late Harry Foye of South Duxbury found the whopper on the beach: "The clam is 6 3/4 inches long and four inches wide. It weighs 31 ounces," Foye reported. "When the monster was shown to a Boston clam connoisseur he said: 'That clam must have been here when Christopher Columbus discovered America. It is the largest clam I have ever seen.'"

Now we give you a special dispatch to the Boston Herald dated July 29, 1913:

"A waterspout over Duxbury Bay today raised a column of water more than 30 feet high. The spout appeared near Clark's Island at 2 p.m. and passed across the bay, disappeared in the direction of Kingston. It moved rapidly over the water, being visible here for less than 15 minutes.

"A black funnel-shaped cloud, with an arm twisting down toward the surface of the bay, was first seen. Then the water seemed to rise to meet the cloud. A swirl of wind raised a pillar of water that appeared to stand 30 to 40 feet high. At the top it broke into spray. For a moment the wind would lose its hold on the water, and the top of the column would flood back into the bay. Then it would rise higher than before.

"It was one of the first waterspouts ever seen in the bay. The phenomenon, common enough in the China Sea and among the West Indies, is a rare spectacle along the New England coast."